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SENIOR CITIZENS
ALBERTA GOVERNMENT
VOLUNTEER SERVICES

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Alberta
ENVIRONMENT

The experience, skills and capabilities of many people in the professional and technical groups cease to be utilized when they retire. Thus a valuable human resource is wasted. This is illogical and unnecessary.

It is the understanding of the government of Alberta that a considerable number of senior citizens, because of their interest in the environment and other fields, would welcome an opportunity to donate their services to society to aid in providing a good quality of life for future generations in Alberta. Also, such service would provide a meaningful part-time activity and one which would provide a great deal of personal satisfaction to senior citizens in knowing that they were not discards in the stream of life.

The government of Alberta recognizes the desirability of providing a mechanism for these skills and capabilities to be further utilized. The Alberta Government Volunteer Services in the Department of The Environment will be the operational unit whereby retired individuals with special skills and capabilities may volunteer to work on environmental projects for \$1.00 a year and related expenses when incurred within the province.

The length of time worked and the hours of work will be according to the wishes of the volunteer. They could work one hour a day, one day a week, one month, or whatever may suit their health and pattern of retirement living.

Examples of the types of work could be:

1. The preparation of environmental bulletins, television scripts, educational material for schools, etc.
2. The researching of local history and points of interest for hiking trails radiating out from provincial parks and the preparation of signs, etc.
3. A lawyer may review and prepare a report on some jurisdictional matter; or prepare a case history on a case which should be recorded in the archives.

4. An agrologist or forester may advise on reclamation projects at the Athabasca Tar Sands and stay a week or two to help summer students; or work in a greenhouse or on other such projects.
5. A retired soil expert could examine pipeline river crossings and evaluate them.
6. A retired biologist may review those environmental impact statements which are five years old and evaluate the projections with the facts after that period of time; or work with a retired veterinarian or pharmacist on pesticide matters.
7. A retired engineer could evaluate processes, etc., and prepare reports thereon; or work with a computer expert to devise new techniques for calculating pollution indices, etc.
8. The provision of support service to the Research Secretariat by working in the library on data retrieval; or helping in fund raising for the A.E.R.T. would be most valuable.
9. The conducting of public opinion surveys on environmental matters.
10. The assistance in part-time laboratory work on environmental matters.
11. The summarization of pollution control and environmental data.

This policy will be administered by the General Services Division, in co-operation with other Divisions of the Alberta Department of the Environment.

It is recognized that the volunteer may be assigned to other Departments if more appropriate work is available there, such as in the O. S. Longman Laboratory, etc. It is intended that the policy will be extended to other Departments of government.

For further information contact the Director,
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